

Academy President Letter  
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From the Desk of J. R. Brandt DC, MPS, FACO  
President  
Academy of Chiropractic

Dear Fellow,

#### ACADEMY EXAMINATION DEVELOPMENT

Your Academy has been very active the last few months on several issues. In this current President's letter I would like to bring you up to date on one of our projects. This project is far reaching and is a monumental project to strengthen our specialty of chiropractic orthopedics.

The Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedists formed a Committee on Programmatic Accreditation. The Academy appointed Dr. Ronald C. Evans as its Chair. This was a natural appointment as Dr. Evans' background on this issue goes back to the development of using the OSCE examination for chiropractic specialty use. This was presented at Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee, Scotland. The presentation was at the International Conference Proceedings of the "Approaches to the Assessment of Clinical Competence". The presentation was on graduate level testing by specialty Boards. Dr. Evans was the principal developer of incorporating the OSCE examination format into the chiropractic specialty process. In the audience at this presentation were representatives of the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE), National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) plus other post graduate and undergraduate entities.

Dr. Evans has access on his Committee to educators (Masters and PhD), IT specialist, Diplomates, statistician and prior examiners.

The Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedists is pleased to announce that the Academy is a full voting member of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). This membership was completed on April 15, 2011.

The American Educational Research Association (AERA), founded in 1916, is concerned with improving the educational process by encouraging scholarly inquiry related to education and evaluation and by promoting the dissemination and practical application of research results.

AERA is the most prominent international professional organization, with the primary goal of advancing educational research and its practical application. Its more than 25,000 members are educators; administrators; directors of research; persons working with testing or evaluation in federal, state and local agencies; counselors; evaluators; graduate students; and behavioral scientists.

The broad range of disciplines represented by the membership includes education, psychology, statistics, sociology, history, economics, philosophy, anthropology, and political science.

Academy is deeply involved in the AERA activities as they pertain to continuing the Academy mission and vision of excellence in credentialing chiropractic orthopedists. Academy is also a member of 4 special interest groups within the AERA domain of activities. Each SPIG offers education and guidance in specific areas pertinent to Academy examination processes.

Academy is in Division H of AERA, the division focused on Research, Evaluation, & Assessment in Schools.

Increasingly, education researchers in every state and school district, and many countries around the world, are striving to make their work useful and relevant to improving decisions about educational policies and practices. Academy has seen the evidence from recent cross-state and international studies which clearly show the strong and positive relationship between educational attainment and individual accomplishment, as well as gains in economic performance and improved well-being of a society.

Over the past three years Division H, with its unique interaction between members working in applied and academic settings, has experienced a significant percent increase in membership, due to its focus on key applications for education research -- including student assessments (both for accountability and classroom use), program evaluation studies, and applied research as they directly relate to improving the quality of education. These are goals and attributes consistent with Academy activities.

Further, Academy participates in the special interest groups of: 1) Advanced Studies of National Databases; 2) Cognition and Assessment, 3) Professional Licensure & Certification and 4) Test Validity Research & Evaluation.

The Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedists is a national examining body that strives to advance knowledge about chiropractic clinical orthopedic education, to encourage scholarly inquiry related to education, and to promote the use of research to improve education and serve the public good. Membership in the American Educational Research Association (AERA) is consistent with this mission. Academy will be participating in upcoming national and regional meetings of AERA.

The Academy continues to strengthen your educational achievements, strengthen our specialty and provide credibility to that process. Thank you to Dr. Evans and the Programmatic Accreditation Committee. They are not resting on their success, but are continuing their mission that they have been outlined to follow.

I am humbled by the efforts of this group of doctors and educators. The dedication they have shown to our specialty, and some of the members are not orthopedists or clinicians. Things are "Naturally Right" for the goals of this group.

I hope everyone had a great 4th of July week-end!

Great works are performed not by strength, but by perseverance.....Samuel Johnson

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